

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, line 25 to page 3, line 2, as follows:

--        FIG. 1 illustrates a system having a playlist generator 100 that includes a user interface 120 that is coupled to an artist similarity module 130. The user identifies an artist via the user interface 120, and the similarity module 130 presents a list of similar artists found in a source 110 of content material. The source 110 may be the user's collection of songs, or it may include songs that are available for downloading from other sites, via, for example, the Internet, or any combination thereof. Via the user interface 120, the user is provided the option of deleting particular artists from the list, selecting a different artist as the selected artist, and so on, until an acceptable list of similar artists is obtained.--.

Please delete the paragraph on page 3, lines 3-11.

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, line 27 to page 6, line 12, as follows:

--        The foregoing merely illustrates the principles of the invention. It will thus be appreciated that those skilled in the art will be able to devise various arrangements which, although not explicitly described or shown herein, embody the principles of the invention and are thus within its spirit and scope. For example,

the artist and song selection process described herein may be combined with other playlist generation techniques. The list of artists, for example, may originally be provided by filtering the source 110 based on a set of user preferences for the particular playlist, and the subsequent lists of similar artists may also be influenced by these user preferences. If a particular artist, for example, is popular as both a country-western and a rock-and-roll singer, and the user's current preference is set to country-western, the list of similar artists would be configured to only include similar country-western artists. In like manner, if the source 110 is a family collection, a particular family member may have a set of global 'tastes' that serve to filter the source 110 to form a subset of the material from the source 110 from which the ~~system-playlist generator~~ 100 selects artists and songs to generate the playlist for this family member. These and other system configuration and optimization features will be evident to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of this disclosure, and are included within the scope of the following claims.--.